AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (**Currently Amended**) A pharmaceutical granule preparation to be dispersed before administration, ~~comprising~~ comprising:

active granules comprising a pharmaceutically active substance that are obtained by coating seeds with a pharmaceutically active substance and said active granules having an average particle diameter of 2 mm or less, placebo granules [[;]] and a thickening agent,

wherein ~~the pharmaceutical~~ said granule preparation is ~~capable of being~~ administered through an NG tube by dispersing said granule preparation in water before administration.

2. (**Currently Amended**) The pharmaceutical granule preparation ~~to be dispersed before administration~~ according to claim 1, wherein the active granules further comprise a functional polymer.

3. (**Currently Amended**) The pharmaceutical granule preparation ~~to be dispersed before administration~~ according to claim 2, wherein the functional polymer is at least one selected from the group consisting of gastric polymers, enteric polymers and sustained release polymers.

4. (**Currently Amended**) The pharmaceutical granule preparation ~~to be dispersed before administration~~ according to any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein the thickening agent is at least one selected from the group consisting of propylene glycol alginate, methyl cellulose, hydroxypropylmethyl cellulose, polyvinylpyrrolidone, sodium polycarboxymethyl cellulose and hydroxypropyl cellulose.

5. (Cancelled).

6. (**Currently Amended**) The pharmaceutical granule preparation ~~to be dispersed before administration~~ according to claim 1, wherein ~~the pharmaceutical~~ said granule preparation is dispersed in water and ~~have~~ has a viscosity of 10 to 1500 mPa·s ~~when dispersed in water before administration~~.

7. (**Currently Amended**) The pharmaceutical granule preparation ~~to be dispersed before administration~~ according to claim 1, wherein the pharmaceutically active substance is a proton pump inhibitor.

8. (**Currently Amended**) The pharmaceutical granule preparation ~~to be dispersed before administration~~ according to claim 7, wherein the proton pump inhibitor is at least one selected from the group consisting of rabeprazole, omeprazole, esomeprazole, lansoprazole and pantoprazole.

9. (New) The pharmaceutical granule preparation according to claim 1, wherein said placebo granules comprise blended and pulverized mannitol, crospovidone, citric acid and light anhydrous silicic acid that is granulated with purified water, dried and sized, said placebo granules having a size and a density similar to those of the active granules.